



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is the primary governmental  
3 entity responsible for the public safety and welfare of its  
4 citizenry; and

5 WHEREAS, The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the  
6 U.S. prompted the nation to take additional actions to protect  
7 our key public facilities, infrastructure, and private assets;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The United States Congress created the Homeland  
10 Security Department in order to better coordinate the nation's  
11 response to terrorism and natural disasters, and this federal  
12 department allocates funds annually under the United States  
13 Homeland Security Act of 2002; and

14 WHEREAS, The Governor of the State of Illinois has  
15 allocated in fiscal year 2006 funds for various transit  
16 agencies and local governments to enhance homeland security;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Terrorists around the globe have targeted major  
19 urban public transit systems as strategic targets for their  
20 attacks; and

21 WHEREAS, The CTA operates the nation's second largest  
22 public transportation system, serving the city of Chicago and  
23 40 surrounding suburbs, with nearly 1.5 million rides taken by  
24 the public on the CTA on an average weekday; and

25 WHEREAS, The CTA has approximately 2,000 buses that operate  
26 over 153 routes and 2,273 route miles, providing about 1  
27 million passenger trips a day and serving more than 12,000  
28 posted bus stops; while CTA's 1,190 rapid transit cars operate  
29 over eight routes and 222 miles of track, providing

1 approximately 500,000 customer trips each day at 144 stations;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Chicago is one of the few cities in the world that  
4 provide rapid transit service to two major airports; and

5 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois, the County of Cook, and the  
6 City of Chicago recognize the CTA as one of the city's and the  
7 region's major public assets and a high priority for enhanced  
8 protection as part of the city's homeland security, disaster,  
9 and terrorist response planning; and

10 WHEREAS, Two recent derailments of CTA rapid transit  
11 trains, along with the 2006 Metra Electric derailment,  
12 underscored the potential vulnerability of transit riders and  
13 our public transportation system to disasters; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
15 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
16 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we support the call for disaster  
17 relief and the restoration of conductors along key portions of  
18 the CTA's Rapid Transit Systems for the purpose of securing  
19 public transportation as a vital public asset; and be it  
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
22 delivered to the Governor, the President of the Cook County  
23 Board, and the Mayor of Chicago.